04434320 IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/549,799

Applicant : HERRMANN et al. Filed : November 21, 2005

TC/A.U. : 1623

Examiner : Crane, Lawrence E.

Docket No. : 2970-125 Customer No. : 06449 Confirmation No. : 7706

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION AND AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP: **AF**Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed December 19, 2007, please enter the amendments and remarks contained on the following pages.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.

A copy of the Preliminary Amendment filed September 19, 2005 is attached following page 13.